

## Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

SCHWARTZ, ALBERT AND ROBERT W. HENDERSON. 1984. *Uromacer*.

*Uromacer* Duméril

*Dendrophis* Schlegel, 1837:220.

*Uromacer* Duméril, 1853:478. Type-species, *Dendrophis catesbyi* Schlegel, 1837, by monotypy.

*Ahaetulla* Günther, 1858:151.

*Megalocercus* Duméril, 1861:202. Type-species, *Dendrophis catesbyi* Schlegel, 1837, by monotypy.

*Neomacer* Cope, 1900:734 (misprint).

• CONTENT. Three species (*U. catesbyi*, *U. frenatus*, *U. oxyrhynchus*) are currently recognized.

• DEFINITION. *Uromacer* are long, attenuate snakes, with a known maximum snout-vent length of 885 mm in males, 1070 mm in females, and elongate tails, consonant with the attenuate bodies. The dorsal scales are smooth, narrow, lanceolate, and have apical pits. There are 17 or 19 scale rows at midbody, reduced to 11 in males and 13 in females of two species, to 11 in both sexes of the third. The eye is moderate in size with a round pupil. The head is slightly elongated in one species and very long and thin in two species, with concomitant elongation of the head scales. The maxillary teeth vary between 16 and 20, increasing in size posteriorly, the two last very large and separated from the others by a wide interspace. The anterior teeth are the longest. There are 1 or 2 loreals; if there are 2 loreals, they are widely separated by the prefrontals, which descend to contact the second of 8 supralabials. There are 9 or 10 infralabials. The first pair of chin shields is shorter than, or as long as, the second pair. The ventral scales in males vary between 157 and 212, in females between 155 and 204. The paired subcaudals vary between 168 and 224 in males, in females between 159 and 215. Totally underbody scales (ventrals + subcaudals) vary between 332 and 420 in males, between 319 and 413 in females. Colors within the genus are greens, tans, or browns, with (in some species) a pale lateral line dividing the two colors (if they are present). Some species are polychromatic or dichromatic.

• DESCRIPTIONS, ILLUSTRATIONS, FOSSIL RECORDS, PERTINENT LITERATURE. See species accounts.

• DISTRIBUTION. Species of *Uromacer* are found throughout His-

paniola, including many satellite islands, at elevations up to 1525 m, and in habitats ranging from xeric to mesic.

• KEY TO SPECIES (account numbers shown in parentheses).

1. Snout not elongate; adults always dark green dorsally and pale green ventrally, in some subspecies with a white, pale green, or blue lateral line on scale rows 1-3; ventrals 157-177 in males, 155-179 in females ..... *U. catesbyi* (356)
- Snout distinctly elongate; dorsum green, tan, or brown, with or without a contrasting lateral line; ventrals 176-212 in males, 172-204 in females ..... 2
2. Dorsum usually bright green, venter tan or green, usually (green specimens) with a pale lateral line on scale rows 1 or 2; mid-body scale rows 19 ..... *U. oxyrhynchus* (358)
- Dorsum brown, tan, or olive green, lateral pale line absent or obscure; midbody scale rows 17 ..... *U. frenatus* (357)

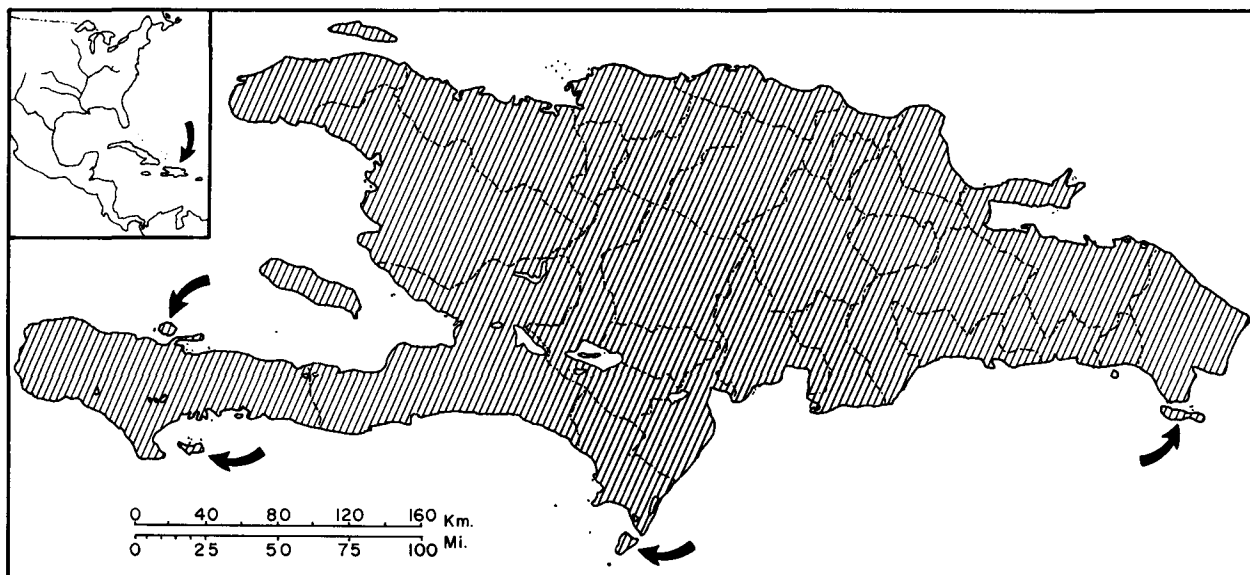
• ETYMOLOGY. The generic name is derived from the Greek *oura* (tail) and from the Latin *macer* (lean), in reference to the extremely long and thin tail. The genus has always been treated as masculine, but *oura* is feminine and *macer*, a modifying adjective, should be *macra*. A more correct spelling is *Uramacra*, and the gender feminine, but we are reluctant to make these orthographic changes.

## LITERATURE CITED

- Cope, Edward D. 1900. The crocodilians, lizards, and snakes of North America. Rept. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1898:153-1294.
- Duméril, A. M. C. 1853. Prodrôme de la classification des reptiles ophiidiens. Troisième ordre de la classe des reptiles. — Les ophiidiens. Mem. Acad. Sci. France 23:399-535.
- 1861. Reptiles et poissons de l'Afrique occidentale. Arch. Mus. d'Hist. Nat. 10:137-240.
- Günther, Albert C. L. G. 1858. Catalogue of colubrine snakes in the collection of the British Museum. London. xvi + 281 p.
- Schlegel, Hermann. 1837. Essai sur la physionomie des serpents. Leiden. 2 vols., 606 p.
- ALBERT SCHWARTZ, MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33167 AND ROBERT W. HENDERSON, MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53233.

Primary editor for this account, Larry David Wilson.

Published 10 October 1984 and Copyright 1984 by the SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES.



MAP. Distribution of the genus *Uromacer*.